Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 TEHRAN 04465 110333Z ACTION NEA-07

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EUR-08 SP-02 INR-05 NSC-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 NSAE-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 L-01 IO-06 AF-04 /057 W

-----066497 110902Z/10

R 101050Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8253
INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY KABUL
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

SECRETTEHRAN 04465

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PGOV, AF, PK, UR, CENTO SUBJ: SITUATION IN AFGHANISTAN

REF: TEHRAN 04356

- 1. BRITISH AMBASSADOR WAS ALSO CALLED TO FONOFF MAY 8 BY KHALATBARY FOR DISCUSSION ON SITUATION IN AFGHANISTAN. KAHLATBARY'S PRESENTATION, WHICH HE MADE FROM PREPARED NOTES, WAS VERY SIMILAR TO THAT MADE TO US (REFTEL).
- 2. AT RECEPTION MAY 9, MINISTER COUNSELOR, WHO HAS KNOWN SHAHI FOR OVER 20 YEARS, WAS DRAWN ASAIDE BY HIM FOR PRIVATE LECTURE IN WHICH HE WOVE THEMES PRESENTED TO AMBASSADOR BY KHALATBARY. SHAHI NOTED THAT THE "GREAT GAME" HAD NOW CONCLUDED AFTER A CENTURY OF COMPETITION. THE RUSSIAN BOOT WAS IN KABUL. PAKISTAN CERTAINLY IS NOT IN POSITION TO SECRET

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PROVIDE THE HISTORICAL COUNTERPOISE TO RUSSIAN POWER.
ONLY ANOTHER GREAT POWER COULD DO THIS. BUT, HE SAID
WITH A SAD SHAKE OF HIS HEAD, THE U.S. APPEARS TO BE IN
A MOOD OF WITHDRAWAL--STILL CONDITIONED BY THE
VIETNAM AND WATERGATE EXPERIENCES. HE REFERRED WITH
SOME IRRITATION TO A WASHINGTON POST EDITORIAL WHICH SAID
THE NEW SITUATION IN AFGHANISTAN WAS A PROBLEM FOR THE

REGIONAL STATES, THUS ABSOLVING THE U.S. FROM ANY RESPONSIBILITY. HOWEVER, HE CONTINUED, PAKISTAN MUST LOOK OUT FOR ITS OWN INTERESTS AND, IF THE BALANCE OF POWER HAS SHIFTED, MAKE THE NECESSARY ADJUSTMENTS IN ITS POLICIES. IN THIS CONNECTION, THE REGIONAL STATES HAD, HE CONCLUDED, WATCHED EVENTS IN THE HORN OF AFRICA WITH GREAT INTEREST. SULLIVAN

SECRET

NNN

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